# In the United States Court of Federal Claims Office of special masters No. 24-11014

MARY O. LILLY,

Chief Special Master Corcoran

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Filed: March 11, 2025

SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,

Respondent.

Petitioner,

Paul D. Bekman, Bekman, Marder, Hopper, Malarkey & Perlin, LLC, Baltimore, MD, for Petitioner.

Jeremy Mauritzen, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC, for Respondent.

# **DECISION ON DAMAGES**<sup>1</sup>

On July 19, 2024, Mary O. Lilly filed a petition for compensation under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program, 42 U.S.C. §300aa-10, *et seq.*1 (the "Vaccine Act"). Petitioner alleges that she suffered a syncopal episode upon receiving a human papillomavirus ("HPV") vaccine on June 24, 2022, which resulted in injuries including "a facial injury resulting in swelling and headache, and avulsion of the right, central incisor tooth." Petition at 2. The case was assigned to the Special Processing Unit of the Office of Special Masters.

On January 10, 2025, a Ruling on Entitlement was issued, finding Petitioner entitled to compensation for a Table vasovagal syncope injury. On March 10, 2025, Respondent filed a Proffer on award of compensation ("Proffer"). Respondent represented that Petitioner agrees with the proffered award. *Id.* at 2. Based on the record as a whole, I find that Petitioner is entitled to an award as stated in the Proffer.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Because this Decision contains a reasoned explanation for the action taken in this case, it must be made publicly accessible and will be posted on the United States Court of Federal Claims' website, and/or at <a href="https://www.govinfo.gov/app/collection/uscourts/national/cofc">https://www.govinfo.gov/app/collection/uscourts/national/cofc</a>, in accordance with the E-Government Act of 2002. 44 U.S.C. § 3501 note (2018) (Federal Management and Promotion of Electronic Government Services). This means the Decision will be available to anyone with access to the internet. In accordance with Vaccine Rule 18(b), Petitioner has 14 days to identify and move to redact medical or other information, the disclosure of which would constitute an unwarranted invasion of privacy. If, upon review, I agree that the identified material fits within this definition, I will redact such material from public access.

Pursuant to the terms stated in the attached proffer, Petitioner is awarded a lump sum of \$53,418.66 (representing \$50,000.00 for pain and suffering, and \$3,418.66 for past unreimbursable expenses), to be paid through an ACH deposit to Petitioner's counsel's IOLTA account for prompt disbursement to Petitioner. Proffer at 2. This amount represents compensation for all damages that would be available under Section 15(a). *Id.* 

The Clerk of Court is directed to enter judgment in accordance with this decision.<sup>2</sup>

IT IS SO ORDERED.

s/Brian H. Corcoran

Brian H. Corcoran Chief Special Master

<sup>2</sup> Pursuant to Vaccine Rule 11(a), entry of judgment can be expedited by the parties' joint filing of notice renouncing the right to seek review.

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# IN THE UNITED STATES COURT OF FEDERAL CLAIMS OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS

MARY O. LILLY,

Petitioner,

v.

SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,

Respondent.

No. 24-1101V Chief Special Master Corcoran ECF

#### RESPONDENT'S PROFFER ON AWARD OF COMPENSATION

On July 19, 2024, Mary O. Lilly ("petitioner") filed a petition for compensation under the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986, 42 U.S.C. §§ 300aa-1 to -34 ("Vaccine Act" or "Act"), alleging that she suffered a syncopal episode following administration of a Human Papillomavirus ("HPV") vaccine she received on June 24, 2022. Petition at 1. On January 8, 2025, the Secretary of Health and Human Services ("respondent") filed a Rule 4(c) Report indicating that this case is appropriate for compensation under the terms of the Act for a vasovagal syncope Table injury, and on January 10, 2025, the Chief Special Master issued a Ruling on Entitlement finding petitioner entitled to compensation. ECF No. 13; ECF No. 14.

#### I. Items of Compensation

#### A. Pain and Suffering

Respondent proffers that petitioner should be awarded \$50,000 in pain and suffering. *See* 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(a)(4). Petitioner agrees.

# B. Past Unreimbursable Expenses

Evidence supplied by petitioner documents that she incurred past unreimbursable expenses related to her vaccine-related injury. Respondent proffers that petitioner should be awarded past unreimbursable expenses in the amount of \$3,418.66. *See* 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(a)(1)(B). Petitioner agrees.

These amounts represent all elements of compensation to which petitioner is entitled under 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(a). Petitioner agrees.

### II. Form of the Award

Petitioner is a competent adult. Evidence of guardianship is not required in this case. Respondent recommends that the compensation provided to petitioner should be made through a lump sum payment as described below and requests that the Chief Special Master's decision and the Court's judgment award the following<sup>1</sup>: a lump sum payment of \$53,418.66 to be paid through an ACH deposit to petitioner's counsel's IOLTA account for prompt disbursement to petitioner.

# III. Summary of Recommended Payment Following Judgment

Lump sum payable to petitioner, Mary O. Lilly:

\$53,418.66

Respectfully submitted,

YAAKOV ROTH Acting Assistant Attorney General

C. SALVATORE D'ALESSIO Director Torts Branch, Civil Division

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Should petitioner die prior to entry of judgment, the parties reserve the right to move the Court for appropriate relief. In particular, respondent would oppose any award for future lost earnings and future pain and suffering.

HEATHER L. PEARLMAN Deputy Director Torts Branch, Civil Division

VORIS E. JOHNSON, JR. Assistant Director Torts Branch, Civil Division

s/ JEREMY MAURITZEN
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Dated: March 10, 2025